Successful Collaboration

By Grace Weltman February 2012



Benefits of Collaborative Funding Models

- Large scale impact and opportunity
- Resource sharing
- Centralized approach and coordination
- Best practices and information sharing
- Greater external leverage and influence
- Accountability

How do you know your collaborative is achieving success? (outcomes)

- Community impact; greater than any individual partner could achieve.
- Increased member capacity; leading to increased ability to achieve community impact.

Success

- A clear purpose; understood and supported by members.
- Engaged members; willing to commit resources (financial and other).

How do you know your collaborative is achieving success? (processes)

- •Effective "network management."
- Flexibility and openness
- •Effective facilitation and consensus-building techniques.
- •Partners are engaged in supporting activities and tasks.
- •Ability to manage conflicts or problems when they arise.
- •Ability to make quality decisions in a timely manner.

Success

•Timely and consistent flow of information among members

What challenges and obstacles do you experience in the collaborative environment?

- Group process and decision-making can be slow.
- Building trust among members.
- Balancing individual vs. group needs.
- Power inequalities among partners.
- Defining purpose and mission.

Resources



- "Comparing Governance and Management in Classic Organizational vs. Network Settings" by Paul Vandeventer
- "Unstill Waters: The Fluid Role of Networks and in Social Movements" by Robin Katcher

